



# In Touch

Spring 2014

Timeless contributions.  
Endless possibilities.

## Governor General *Visit*

Photos by Andrew Paul

On March 27th at The Fairmont Hotel Macdonald, ECF was pleased to host the Governor General, His Excellency The Right Honourable David Johnston at a light reception for donors, volunteers, and guests. His Excellency spoke passionately about smart and caring communities. Below are a few of the highlights of the evening.



Edmonton Community Foundation



ecfoundation.org 780.426.0015



For change of address please advise:  
Edmonton Community Foundation  
9910-103 Street NW  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5K 2V7



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Martin Garber-Conrad

## CEO Message

Although spring has barely started we're well into the work of 2014. The annual financial audit is nearly complete and financial statements will be posted on our web site when it is. Needless to say, the past year was a good one.

Invitations will be out soon, but you can mark your calendar now for the annual meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Hotel. It will be a luncheon, as usual, with an interesting keynote on "youth." Dr. Paul Kershaw, from UBC, explores the challenges and emerging solutions for Canadians under 45. His topic, "Generation Squeeze", has intrigued the nation as he describes being squeezed between lower incomes and higher costs for housing, tuition, childcare and saving for retirement. Kershaw is interested in Canadians taking action to "reduce the squeeze". Watch for your invitation!

We have begun looking specifically at challenges relating to youth in connection with Vital Signs® 2014. Vital Signs® is as a national initiative, with community foundations across Canada reporting simultaneously on

key community indicators - this year on October 7<sup>th</sup>. We're pleased to be working with Edmonton Social Planning Council on this project and, as usual, the work is guided by an expert volunteer advisory committee.

Twenty-five years ago Edmonton philanthropists Bob and Shirley Stollery, George and Rae Poole, and John and Barbara Poole made the initial donations to activate Edmonton Community Foundation. They would be so pleased to see that since 1989 our asset base has passed \$400 million and we have disbursed more than \$150 million to charities. This is all thanks to the generosity of Edmontonians who have a passion for charitable organizations and who care about the city we live in. Please check our newly launched website for information and opportunities related to our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at [www.ecfoundation.org](http://www.ecfoundation.org).

In this issue you'll find an exciting report on Jowi Taylor & Six String

Nation. We celebrated with donors Gurvinder Bhatia and Aimee Hill, and their fund "The Grateful Palette", for this first gathering as part of ECF's 25<sup>th</sup>.

Continuing our anniversary celebrations in March, ECF was extremely pleased to host the Right Honorable Governor General David Johnston. We have pictures of that event for you, too. Our most congenial Governor General shared his mission to make Canada a smart and more caring nation. To that end, ECF has answered the call by establishing a Smart & Caring Community Fund.

We invite you to participate with us as we celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> throughout the year. Look for the next issue of *Legacy In Action* in the June issue of Avenue Magazine or in your mailbox. In the mean time, please share this issue with your friends, colleagues or neighbors, and give us a call if you would like extra copies.

All the best, MGC

Hold the date!

## Edmonton Community Foundation's *Annual Meeting*



Thursday, June 12, 2014

11:50 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Westin Hotel 10135 100 Street NW

Dr. Paul Kershaw from University of British Columbia and  
Founder, Generation Squeeze Campaign

Today's youth is squeezed between lower incomes and higher costs for housing, tuition, child care and saving for retirement. The Gen Squeeze campaign is asking for a better generational deal. ([gensqueeze.ca](http://gensqueeze.ca)).

[Annualmeeting@ecfoundation.org](mailto:Annualmeeting@ecfoundation.org) or 780.702.7628

Edmonton Community Foundation



ecfoundation.org 780.426.0015

## Tiger Family Fund

Story by Elizabeth Bonkink

With children of vastly different ages, Shannon Zwicker and Josh Ramsbottom set up the Tiger Family Fund 10 years ago to instill philanthropy and cooperation in their children. Now it has also become a way to bring the family together.

Laura Kiriak, age 15, was the one who came up with the name for the fund. She was four at the time, suggesting "The Tiger Family" after a favourite game where she associated a tiger family with her own.


This solution worked well for the family as they were not looking for recognition with a named fund, explained Josh. "And with so many last names to choose from, how do you decide which names to choose?"

**"... it was a time for the family to reflect on what we want the fund to accomplish."**

Shannon explains that the fund brings the family together. "We hold a family meeting and require everyone to be there. In fact, it was Morgan, who chaired the first meeting," indicating the second youngest child.

The family's fund emerged last year and they were excited to make their first granting decision. "We gave to cats," said Evertt Ramsbottom, age seven.

Shannon said that she knew that 'cats' would come up as the family recently



**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Edmonton Community Foundation

**Collective imagination.**

It was the imagination of a four-year-old girl that gave the Tiger Family Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation its name. And imagination leads our family's giving decisions. Imagining the change our gifts will make in the community, or how much our impact there will be. *Just imagine what Edmonton could be like if other families joined us.*

Josh Ramsbottom, Shannon Zwicker, Darien Zwicker, Laura Kiriak, Morgan Ramsbottom, & Everett Ramsbottom.

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Call 780-426-0015 or visit our website [www.ecfoundation.org](http://www.ecfoundation.org)



lost their cat 'Jasper'. So they did some research and choose North Alberta Society for Animal Protection (NASAP). The Tiger Family fund actually supported two organizations: NASAP and iHuman.

Darien Zwicker, age 17, wanted to also support humans. "Alex was very helpful in showing us iHuman and what they do," Shannon says. Alex Draper is a member of ECF's granting staff.

"We are hoping the fund decisions will foster a healthy debate among the kids where they all bring forward ideas," Josh says. "Their interests will change as they grow older and we wanted the flexibility to let them decide where the funds should go based on where they are in life." Laura has since decided to volunteer with NASAP to complement her funding decision.

With Darien now away in Germany and Laura heading to Denmark next year, the family is glad they will have something that will bring them together.

Recently the family agreed to pose for ECF's new ad campaign. "We were glad not only to have the family photo, but it was a time for the family to reflect on what we want the fund to accomplish," Shannon says.

### Who is new in Donor Services...

ECF is pleased to announce two new members to the Donor Services staff; Jane Frances Asaba Kanyunyuzi, joins the team as the new Donor Services Assistant - Receipting, and Kerri DeLuca will be returning to Donor Services as the new Stewardship Associate.

## Join us at the Zoo!

ECF invites you and your family to join us at the newly remodelled **Edmonton Valley Zoo on Tuesday, May 13th from 5:30 to 8 p.m.**

This fun, all-access evening is our 25th anniversary gift to you!

Meet the animals up-close, enjoy a BBQ dinner, and learn about what is next for the Valley Zoo!

Email [RSVP@ecfoundation.org](mailto:RSVP@ecfoundation.org) or call **780-423-4956** let us know you are coming and how many family

members will be joining you! It is sure to be a WILD time!



## What is CASL?

On July 1, 2014 Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) comes into effect.

This new law requires businesses and charities to obtain permission to send electronic messages to stakeholders.

This means that even if we already communicate with you over email, we

will be contacting you to ask you if it is okay to continue to do so.

By allowing us to email you can help us reduce costs and save the environment. It also means that you will receive invitations and newsletters faster than if sent by

Canada Post.

You will receive an email asking you to "consent" to email messages. Please take the time to say "yes" and help us stay in touch with you in an environmentally friendly and timely way.



## Jowi Taylor & Six String Nation

Photos by Andrew Paul

On February 6th guests of ECF were treated to Jowi Taylor's Six String Nation at Metro Cinema.

One part history lesson and one part

concert, Six String Nation delighted the crowd as Taylor, a Peabody Award-winning broadcaster, recounted the incredible journey it took to construct Voyageur, the Six String Nation guitar. From pieces of Wayne Gretzky's hockey stick to Pierre Trudeau's canoe paddle, Voyageur is built with more than 60 distinct Canadian artifacts making it a treasure of Canadian history. In true community fashion, Jowi was joined by the local musicians Bobby Cameron, Miike

McDonald and The Command Sisters to round the evening off with some of the best music Edmonton has to offer. We would like to thank ECF Board Member Gurvinder Bhatia and his wife Aimee Hill for organizing this truly fabulous evening on behalf of their fund "The Grateful Palate".

